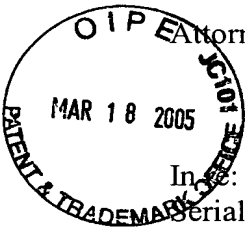


15w 2645



Attorney Docket No.: NC056-US1/5487-81

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Mullaney et al.
Serial No.: 09/626,168
Filed: July 27, 2000
For: TERMINAL BLOCKS AND METHODS FOR MAKING AND BREAKING
CONNECTIONS IN A TELECOMMUNICATION CONDUCTOR

Confirmation No.: 9565
Group Art Unit: 2645
Examiner: Ovidio Escalante

March 14, 2005

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

Applicants provide the present response to address the issues raised in the Office Action mailed December 29, 2004 ("the Office Action").

If any extension of time for the accompanying response or submission is required, Applicant requests that this be considered a petition therefor. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee, which may be required, or credit any refund, to Deposit Account No. 50-0220.

Amendment to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 21 of this paper.